

ABSTRACT

5 The invention relates to novel plant and process for
producing liquefied natural gas. The plant of the invention
is of the type that comprises one natural gas pre-cooling
heat exchanger having an inlet for natural gas and an
outlet for cooled natural gas, optionally a distributor
10 having an inlet connected to the outlet for cooled natural
gas and having one or more outlets, and one or more main
heat exchangers each comprising a first hot side having one
inlet connected to one outlet of the distributor and an
outlet for liquefied natural gas, which plant further
15 comprises a pre-cooling refrigerant circuit for removing
heat from the natural gas in the natural gas pre-cooling
heat exchanger, and one or more main refrigerant circuits
for removing heat from natural gas flowing through the
first hot side of the corresponding main heat exchanger.
20 The invention is based on the use of separate pre-
cooling circuits: one for the pre-cooling of the natural
gas and one for the pre-cooling of the main refrigerant.

25 Fig. 1